

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Office Tapao
MAY 24 2006
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Atsushi SEKI
Appl. No. : 10/567,646
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/011798)
Filed : February 9, 2006
For : OPTICAL AMPLIFIER APPARATUS
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby brings the following information to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, which includes information cited and discussed in the specification and the International Search Report issued in connection with International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/011798, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. A copy of the International Search Report was enclosed with the papers when entering the U.S. National Stage on February 9, 2006. The Examiner is invited to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during international examination with respect to the documents cited therein. The following is a list of the documents cited in the above-noted documents:

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 2001-358389, together with an English language machine translation and patent family member U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0033411. Applicant notes that the Japanese document is cited on page 1 of the specification of the present application;

Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. HEI 4-150088, together with an English language abstract of the same; and

MASUDA et al., "High gain two-stage amplification with erbium-doped fibre amplifier," Electronics Letters, Vol. 26, No. 10, pp. 661-662 (1990).

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), a copy of the U.S. patent application publication is not enclosed herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents and a journal article are attached hereto and all of the above-noted documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Atsushi SEKI

Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027

William Pieprz
Reg. No. 33630

May 24, 2006
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 Roland Clarke Place
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 716-1191

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.